

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

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Embodiments of the invention provide a mechanism for using name spaces in graphical user interface (GUI) page definitions. A name space designation is assigned to each control mechanism that generates

5 definitional statements for the GUI. A dynamic name space designation mechanism ensures that a page's definitional statements generated by different control mechanisms do not conflict. Control mechanisms are thereby prevented from generating definitional statements in a page definition that use the same name to denote different entities. In an

10 embodiment of the invention, a page control is assigned a name space designation and assigns a name space designation for each of the controls that are used to generate the page. A control may contain other controls. In this case, the name space designation of the control is included in each contained control's name space designation. The name space designation

15 can be used to uniquely identify a control. Each control uses its name space designation when generating name attributes that are included definitional statements for a Web page GUI element, for example. The name attribute that includes the name space designation, is sent to the browser where it may be incorporated by the browser into a name-value pair when

20 transferring data back to the control. The name space designation in a name-value pair identifies the control to which the data is to be forwarded when it is received on the server.